

Comments Mailed to EPA from Private Citizens

I am retired PHYSICIAN IN INTERNAL MEDICINE. My name is Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP) and I am totally against in any kind of TOXIC MATERIAL DUMPING or uranium mining because these are very dangerous for HEALTH of all living things.

I would like to voice my opposition to the applications submitted concerning water permits for the Dewey-Burdock uranium mining and high pressure waste disposal wells.

I have served the past eleven years as a county commissioner for Fall River County South Dakota, and have been a resident of Fall River County for seventy-two years. I have testified before the National Regulatory Commission and presented my views. I will spare writing a lengthy response addressing the specific dangers involved and numerous negatives that could impact our citizens and our county in general.

The bottom line of the issue is clear. Several years ago Powertech (now known as Azarga, a Chinese owned company) was able to lobby our state legislature and remove the oversights pertaining to the regulations that would oversee companies such as Azarga. The current project manager of Azarga's Dewey-Burdock project is a past state legislator. During the time of the permit process, several members of our Fall River County Commission held stock in Azarga. This cannot be verified because there is a 'gag order' in place, protecting stockholders. Fall River County does not have safeguards in place because of its failures to implement a county management plan.

As to often happens, big business and corrupt politicians have positioned themselves while the 'little guy' is unnoticed.

Agriculture and tourism are Fall River County's leading industry. Clean water is paramount!

Azarga is a foreign company, they have no concern for what may be left behind.

The few dollars generated does not compare to the risks involved and the unknown.

The EPA was established to protect the citizens, to always safeguard our natural resources.

This is a time when our EPA can stand up and do what is right. Protect our Water!

I am responding to the proposed Dewey-Burdock ISL project. I live just 12 miles from Edgemont. Of course as a concerned citizen I do not want any uranium waste dumped here. I also have a vacation rental house on my land. People come from other states to vacation in the beautiful Black Hills and have stayed at my place. This land is also a place where sacred Lakota spiritual ceremonies have taken place in the past years and presently. I do not want any uranium waste dumped here is the area where it would get into the aquifers and destroy our drinking water. This is very important because water is life and without it there would be not life.

I am adamantly opposed to any extraction of any uranium in the Edgemont, SD area.

My nephew worked in the site when they were operating an open pit operation there. In later years he had developed two different cancers. There is no safe way to extract uranium.

Contamination!

Nothing good will ever come from this mining. Clean-up promises are pure lies.
Safe mining cannot be done.

STOP THIS UTTER RAPING OF OUR BEAUTIFUL BLACK HILLS! I'LL NEVER APPROVE OF MINING OPERATIONS!!!!!!

Mother Earth will suffocate, she will be strangled with poisonous toxins if these "restrictions" are not acknowledged.

We need to preserve the future generations with pure waters.

Stop the uranium dumpings?

I'm against these violent TOXINS!

RE: Docket # EPA R08-OW-2019-0512 on 2 Underground Injection Control Draft Area Permits – one associated with a proposed AQUIFER EXEMPTION decision for the Dewey-Burdock Uranium in-situ recovery site. I strongly OPPOSE allowing either of these mining sites, but especially the one requiring an aquifer exemption decision.

This is yet another proposal for dirty industry (mining) to supersede the environmental. I have lost all confidence in the EPA since 2016, with all due respect.

I am [name redacted] US NAVY, RETIRED, NAVAL INTELLIGENCE. You may contact me on my mobile phone at [phone number redacted]. I served in the Gulf War directing a covert operation to detect and deflect Saddam Hussein's importation of critical military weapons components. This mission was highly classified.

I visited the EPA in Denver, meeting with Debra H. Thomas, to object to this project.

During the Obama Administration, Hillary Clinton, while Secretary of State, approved a sanction for Russia, which allowed Vladimir Putin's company, Uranium One, to become a wholly owned Russian Company and allowed it to operate in the United States with vast powers.

Uranium One bought a minerals and energy leasing company, called Energy Metals Corporation (EMC) which owned thousands of energy leases throughout the U.S. It is estimated that upwards of 20% of the uranium leases in the United States are now owned by Uranium One, Vladimir Putin's company.

The Powertech Azarga Uranium Proposal in the Dewey Burdock area north of Edgemont, SD, contained about 20% of EMC leases, which are now owned by Uranium One, the wholly owned Russian company. Further, when Powertech merged with the Hong Kong based, Azarga, a substantial investment from Chinese interests acquired a stake in the Powertech Project. Neither Russia nor China are to be trusted with Uranium materials that can be used to create nuclear weapons. Both countries are dealing with terrorist groups and countries who are enemies of the United States, Iran, North Korea, Pakistan, and others.

Once these permits are granted, to include in situ leach uranium mining and processing, injection wells and aquifer exemptions Powertech Azarga can sell the company and the rights to the permits to any variety of outside interests, including the governments of Russia and China.

THE POWERTECH AZARGA PROJECT SHOULD NOT BE PERMITTED IN ANY FORM BECAUSE OF THE OBVIOUS NATIONAL SECURITY ISSUES SURROUNDING THE PRODUCTION OF URANIUM MATERIALS, WHICH COULD BE USED TO PROLIFERATE NUCLEAR WEAPONS.

I, therefore, strenuously object to the permitting of this project in any form whatsoever.

This project presents a risk to our national security that we simply cannot afford to take.

Referring to Docket Number EPA-R08-OW-2019-0512

I object to the proposed reissuing of permits for Azarga and subsidiary Powertech to drill in the Inyan Kara and Minnelusa aquifers at the Dewey-Burdock site. Consultation with tribal government MUST take place

I feel water taken from the Madison aquifer should be returned to the Madison aquifer. The Minnelusa aquifer provides water for domestic wells and free flowing springs. This water is used for household, drinking, livestock and wildlife. My fear is the naturally occurring minerals and compounds from the Madison when combined with the natural minerals of the Minnelusa will make is unpalatable even if tested safe. This would effectively render these Minnelusa sources unusable for current uses.

As a former councilman for the city of Hot Springs, I have previously testified before the National Regulatory Commission.

I did not approve of permitting Azarga or any other company to destroy our water supply. I still do not approve of permits to Azarga -Powertech company. We have good water that would be destroyed by either waste injection, mining of uranium or any other undesirable process.

Giving a Chinese company rights to destroy our water via uranium mining and or injection of toxic waste into our beautiful aquifer that we depend on daily for our way of life is senseless. Our water is for Agriculture and Tourism, our two top industries, and for personal use.

I am against destroying our water by these and any other means that would alter our water quality, and destroy our business.

Because there is no way to safely mines, use or store waste from uranium, no permits to mine it should be issued anywhere, ever. I am certain there are already enough mines to provide adequate supplies for medical use which is a trade off.

The companies that profit from mining often abandon there clean up cost to use, the citizens of the United States who live here with all the negative consequences. We need that money for education and healthcare not to increase the profits for the already wealthy people from foreign companies.

We all need open space, clean air and water, and tribal people need their religious and cultural rights preserved. We have certainly harmed them enough already.

We are submitting a statement to strongly oppose the Powertech proposal of the Underground Injection permit to request to dispose of uranium waste in the Inyan Kara aquifer in Fall River county.

We adamantly feel nuclear waste will eventually put the aquifer at dangerous risk of polluting the principal source of South Dakota and Wyoming regions ground water.

In the best interest and greater good of the people and wildlife of South Dakota and Wyoming please reject Powertech's request to use the water source for purposes of uranium mining and disposal in Fall River County.

These w reprints may help you evaluate the hydrogeology of the proposed Dewey-Burdock uranium in-situ recovery site.

This is a protest to permitting Uranium mining in the areas of Dewey Burdock, South Dakota. The reasons for my protest are listed here:

Water, along with chemical elements, is used to extract the Uranium. Then the contaminated water is injected into aquifers in the same areas. This is not safe. It is impossible to completely contain the contaminated water and keep it from moving into water that will be used for consumption by humans and animals.

There are still products dumped for former miners left to contaminate the land and water.

It is understood that licensing has been given to the company looking for further licensing to mine, that already give them many times their need to dispose of contaminated water than will be used in their own mining process. This makes it possible for other states to bring their fluid to be disposed of in our state. This would increase the leakages of contaminants into potable water supplies that are used in our own state and many other states.

The company applying for licensing in the State of South Dakota are not from our area and are even made up of persons and companies from foreign countries.

This is only an asset to a few who gain riches, while creating many environmental problems for our own residents and the residents relying on the waters that move underground and have been safe to use in the past.

The EPA was created to protect the land and keep it in good order for our children and grandchildren.

This letter is in reference to the draft water permits for the Dewey-Burdock uranium mining and high pressure waste disposal wells. My wife and I moved to Hot Springs, SD, in July after purchasing a home here. I am a disabled vet and needed to be close to the VA hospital here. We chose this town in large part for the quality of the warm thermal mineral waters that this town revolved around.

Please do not approve these permits and the sanctity of these precious fragile waters that flow through our little town. Your decision could affect many, many people and the ecosystem here and throughout the Black Hills. You do not want this as a legacy of your position. I pray to God every night that these permits do not get approved and I worry that an approval will be a curse on those that let it happen. I am hoping that you are person who really cares about your country and your planet or you would not be in the position that are in. Search your heart and I pray that God guides you hand.

May God bless you and your family.

I'm writing so my voice may be heard. I am against opposed to the 2 updated draft water permits for uranium mining and mining waste disposal in underground water aquifers.

I OPPOSE issuing permits to Azarga Uranium & its local subsidiary Powertech t the Dewey-Burdock site. We must protect the environment & especially the local aquifers.

Docket number EPA-R08-OW-2019-0512

Re: Regulations. Docket EPA R08-OW-2019-0512 Safe Water vs. uranium mining

Our aquifers, clean and filter water, took millions of years to develop. If standards for drinkable water can be changes, so can any rules for treatment. Science finds errors of judgement made in previous years and moves will be discovered int eh futures. Don't add these moves to that list of mistakes by allowing that "stuff" into our precious water. -PLEASE-. Humans can't wait long enough for the aquifers to return to safety afer being ruined.

Let those who believe that the “treated” water from uranium mining is safe to be the first to introduce it into their own homes, especially after the standards for drinkable water have been lowered.
Please send my objection to whoever is handing comments on this idea. Thank you.